

THOUSANDMEN AT CANTONMENT ARE LEARNING FRENCH

Camp Dodge Soldiers Are Being Instructed to "Parley Voo" Under Competent Teachers.

NEXT QUOTA TO GO AFTER JAN. 1

Final 54 Per Cent of First Group Selectives Looked for Shortly After the New Year.

(Special to The Argus.)

Camp Dodge, Ia., Dec. 17.—Those French girls won't have such a hard time talking to boys of the Eighty-eighth division when the soldiers get across the pond.

For these fellows will be able to "parley voo" as well as anyone, if attendance at the camp French classes is any indication. They won't even trip over verbs or adjectives, and those parts of speech are the most necessary for conversational purposes. Especially for conversations with little girls.

During the week 1,000 soldiers at Camp Dodge attended French classes. The attendance at all cantonment classes for that week was 2,490. Illiterate Negroes, too, soon will be able to read and write. For there are classes for them under the direction of the staff from Y. M. C. A. building No. 90. The attendance in these classes during the week ending Dec. 1 was 843.

Men who weren't able to speak or read English are learning fast, also. Several classes in English for foreigners are being held at the camp, with an average attendance of about ninety each week.

Besides these special classes are a number of others with smaller attendance. Journalism, automobile repairing, agriculture, psychology and geometry are some of the branches of study taught at Camp Dodge. A number of men also are taking correspondence courses for college credit, that they need not lose their degrees, even though they have joined the army.

Soldiers at Camp Dodge can't be called "dummkopf" by those boches.

Few Christmas Leaves. Only those soldiers in the Eighty-eighth division of the national army at Camp Dodge who can reach their homes by means other than the steam railroads will be granted furloughs and passes for the Christmas holidays.

This is the ruling which has been placed upon a recent order from the war department stating that steps be taken to relieve congestion on the railroads at this time.

All passes issued thus far which will require travel on railroads are revoked.

The order affects officers and enlisted men alike. Electric lines, automobiles, wheelbarrows and baby carriage and that exercise familiar to all the soldiers known as walking, will be the popular methods employed in reaching home.

The order will not seriously affect the plans of Des Moines men or those from Jasper, Story, Boone and Webster counties who can reach their homes on the various interurban lines running into these districts. In view of the fact that statistics show one automobile to every 14 persons in Iowa, it is presumed many Iowa men will travel home in this manner.

The greatest hardship will fall on the soldiers from central Illinois and North Dakota.

A large majority of men from these districts have not been home since being inducted into the service.

Next Busch in January. The call to the colors of the final 54 per cent of the men selected for military service in the Eighty-eighth division of the national army at Camp Dodge is looked for by division officials shortly after Jan. 1.

This is the conclusion drawn following a recent order from the war department asking that steps be taken to eliminate as far as possible congested conditions on the steam railroads during the Christmas holidays.

Officers graduated and commissioned from the training camp for officers at Fort Snelling, which closed recently, are ordered to report for duty at division headquarters today.

There will be approximately three hundred of them, it is said.

Government inspection of Des Moines hotels, restaurants, ice cream parlors, barber shops and similar establishments, patronized by soldiers from Camp Dodge, is to be invoked, according to an order received by Lieutenant Colonel J. E. Shook, division surgeon, from the surgeon general of the army at Washington.

The letter says: "It is desired that you make appropriate recommendations to the commanding general with a view to deterring soldiers from entering restaurants, booths for the sale of food, hotels, barber shops, manicure parlors, ice cream parlors, soda fountain establishments and places of similar character which have not been inspected and furnished a permit or certificate of inspection."

In Des Moines the work of inspection will be under the direction of Major E. K. Sprague, in charge of the United States public health service here, it was said by division staff officers.

A bulletin to be issued at division headquarters will direct the soldiers not to patronize such establishments unless they can exhibit a permit. The measures are to be taken, it is said, to guard against the possibility of the soldiers being exposed to contagious or infectious diseases.

CHRISTMAS TREAT TO COLORED CHILDREN

The Ladies' Progressive Art club is preparing to give the annual Christmas treat for all the colored children of Rock Island at the Second Baptist church Friday evening, Dec. 29.

Mrs. Marie Golden is general manager of the entertainment and any one having anything to donate will please call Rock Island 2033 which will be greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS AT CAMP DODGE NOT TO BE LONELY AS BIG PLANS ARE BEING MADE

(Special to The Argus.)

Camp Dodge, Iowa, Dec. 17.—Here comes grandma!

And cousin Lizzie, too, with Aunt Hannah!

There's mother and father, too, with all those little brothers and sisters, who have shaken the snow of Strawberry Point, Minn., from their feet and are hurrying to Camp Dodge, to spend Christmas with their soldier relatives.

Happy is the soldier, these days, who owns a Pierce-Arrow, or lives within trolley distance of the cantonment. For unless his clothes have the odor of gasoline, or he can produce an automobile license as proof of his ownership of a tin Lizzie, his chances for spending Christmas on his native heath are practically nil. That is, unless he lives in some metropolis which can be reached by trolley.

The decree of the war department at Washington, which seems to mean that no soldiers in national training camps shall be granted Christmas leaves if their homes can be reached only by train, has thrown soldiers at Camp Dodge into a state of consternation. Plans for spending the holidays about the domestic hearth have gone glimmering. Visions of best girls posed beneath bushes of mistletoe have been shattered. As one recruit put it, "These are evil times, and Sherman had the right hunch."

Walking parties are contemplated by soldiers who don't live many hundreds of miles distant, and others are planning an appeal to sonless mothers and philanthropic spinsters, to send motor cars for the accommodation of soldiers who crave Christmas dinners with their families.

Those men who live in Polk, Story, Jasper, Boone and Webster counties, Iowa, are fairly gloating, for nearly all their home towns are accessible by trolley. But the fellows who live some distance from the cantonment are confronted by the thought that even though they cannot leave, the folks from home may come to Des Moines for the holidays. That takes a great deal of the sting from that order, you know.

There will be a regular begira from communities in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and Illinois. Devoted families will make Santa Claus, that well known Christmas traveling man, look like a rank amateur. They will bring with them loads of gifts and baskets of indigestible dainties, such as never have been assembled before in Des Moines. Christmas won't be a dreary time for the soldiers. It will be a time to be remembered.

Those who stay out at the camp for dinner will have an opportunity to revel in good things. The camp quartermaster is ordering Christmas "chow" galore, and there will be enough food disposed of to make any hungry man fairly lose his sense of proportion. The boys out there will eat 20,000 pounds of turkey, 22,000 pounds of cranberries, 20,000 pounds of potatoes, several thousand pies, and all sorts of vegetables, salads, puddings, cake, candy, nuts and fruit. Nothing which goes to make up a real Christmas dinner will be omitted. It's going to be a great day.

Christmas at Camp Dodge will be no dreary occasion. There will be more excitement, more festive doings than have been seen for some time. All sorts of holiday customs will be observed; there are to be special religious services, and a lavish hand will distribute gifts to everybody.

Doings at the "Y." Under the general direction of the Y. M. C. A. administration, at the cantonment, every one of the eight "Y" buildings is arranging special features for Christmas day. These will include "stunt" program, Christmas trees, services, presents for everybody, and a general "get together" time. Holiday decorations will cover bare walls and rafters. There will be holly, evergreens and mistletoe on every side. No detail of holiday cheer will be omitted.

The communities from which Camp Dodge soldiers come are being asked to aid in making these Christmas celebrations successful. Philanthropic folks have been urged to send popcorn, candy, nuts, decorations and inexpensive little gifts to the Y. M. C. A.'s, so that no soldier will be forgotten.

Every Y. M. C. A. building will have one big Christmas tree and some of them will have some little trees also. Secretary Gay Aldrich of building No. 97 is making arrangements for securing these trees.

And those Negroes from Alabama needn't be lonesome, either. For besides having the best Christmas dinner they've ever dreamed of, they're to have a real Christmas party at their own building, No. 90. There will

be nuts for everybody, special religious services and a stunt program. The Knights of Columbus also is planning elaborate observance of Christmas day, but have not yet completed its programs. There will be Christmas trees in each of the three buildings, however, and special religious services in the K. of C. auditorium. A program of Christmas music and carols also is planned. There will be no dearth of gifts in this organization, either. Surely no soldier at Camp Dodge will be empty-handed.

And it won't be such a hardship to be sick, either. Soldiers at the base hospital won't be so far out of luck as they imagine. Of course it's not very exciting to spend Christmas in a long ward, but when that ward is all decorated with holly and evergreen, and there's a little Christmas tree right in plain sight, it won't be half bad. There will be special delicacies for the patients, too, and funny little presents to cheer them up.

Those boys in the Forty-second infantry, stationed with the Eighty-eighth division, won't be homesick. Their commander, Colonel C. E. Denton, says there's to be all sorts of gayety around their barracks. They're going to have Christmas decorations, too, and informal programs. An the colonel himself will observe an old regular army custom by visiting each company that day to see what every company commander has done for his outfit. He's going to see that his boys have a merry Christmas. They're just boys you know, most of them under 21 years of age, so the holidays probably mean more to them than to some of the older men at Camp Dodge.

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NO WORD OF PLAN TO CHANGE CAMPS

Rock Island Exemption Board Is Without Orders to Send Any of Its Men to California.

Nothing whatever in the way of orders or instructions had been received at a late hour this afternoon by the Rock Island exemption board regarding the sending of men to California instead of Camp Dodge, Iowa.

According to advices from Chicago 1,000 selectives are being sent to Camp Winfield Scott at San Francisco, Cal., for training instead of to Camp Grant at Rockford, Ill.

Whether any of the Rock Island selectives, 200 of whom are being held pending further orders from the adjutant general, will be sent to the California camp for training instead of to Camp Dodge, where previous contingents were sent, could not be stated by any of the members of the Rock Island exemption board, but they were of the opinion that such would not be the case.

DOCTOR SAYS VINOL IS THE BEST TONIC

Honest Opinion Doctor Gave His Patient

Bedford, Ohio.—"I was in a pitiful condition, weak, nervous and run down so I could not do my housework. I had doctored for years and tried everything under the sun. A friend told me about Vinol. I asked my doctor about it, and he replied, 'It certainly is the best medicine that can be had today. I couldn't give you any better.' I took it, and today I am as well and strong as any woman could wish to be, and it was Vinol that saved me."—Mrs. Frank A. Horkey, Ash St., Bedford, Ohio.

We guarantee this famous cod liver and iron tonic for all such conditions.

Red Cross Pharmacy, Charles J. Strate, Bengston's Drug store, Rock Island, and at the best drug store in every town and city in the country.

DRAFT BOOKLETS ARE MAILED OUT

Two Hundred Questionnaires Put Out Saturday and That Many More on Way Today.

WILL REQUIRE 20 DAYS FOR ALL

Five Per Cent of Total Going Out Daily—Being Issued According to Order Number.

Two hundred questionnaires were mailed Saturday and two hundred more today by the local exemption board, in compliance with the orders of the provost marshal general that 5 per cent of each board's total be sent out each day, beginning Dec. 15.

More than twenty days will be required before all of the registrants in the Rock Island district will have received questionnaires, as there are 4,120 men in this territory listed with this exemption board as having been registered for army service under the selective conscription act.

All questionnaires are dated at the time they are sent out by the exemption board and it provides that they must be properly filled out and returned by the registrant within seven days of the date of mailing, Sundays and legal holidays not included.

Sent Out in Order.

The questionnaires are being sent out according to the order number of the registrant; that is, according to his position on the local list of registered men. The registrants whose order numbers are between 1 and 200 were mailed questionnaires Saturday. Those having order numbers between 200 and 400 were sent questionnaires today by the exemption board. In the same way questionnaires will be sent the registrants between 400 and 600 tomorrow, and so on until the whole list of 4,120 has been exhausted.

GOVERNOR LOWDEN MAKES APPEAL FOR RED CROSS SOCIETY

The Christmas season is upon us. The question that comes to all is, How shall we best observe it? It usually is a time of mingled joy and reverence, of tender thought and kindly deed. The joy this year will be chastened and subdued by the great tragedy which enfolds the world. All the more reason why the reverence, the tenderness, the generosity which have marked other Christmases should find full expression in this. How can this now be better done than by a mighty enlistment in the army of the Red Cross?

For the Red Cross affirms the reality of mercy and gentleness and compassion, and the triumph of the spirit, just as did that other cross in Palestine long centuries since.

The allies have captured the sacred spot where that cross stood. And if we now shall only recapture the spirit which went out from Calvary, all will be well.

Our soldier boys in the camps and at the front, with stout hearts and serene faith, go to meet our enemy. They anxiously ask, How about our people at home? Do they realize the magnitude of our task? Do we have their sympathies, their support and their prayers? If so, we shall surely win.

Let us, in this Christmas week, make answer by rallying all our patriotic men and women and boys and girls under the banner of the Red Cross.

Given under my hand and the great seal of state at the capitol at Springfield, this 15th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventeen, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred forty-second.

FRANK O. LOWDEN.

By the governor: Lewis L. Emerson, Secretary of State.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

EXPLAINS HOW TO AVOID CONFUSION

Adjutant General F. S. Dickson Writes Board on Marking Questionnaires for Registrants.

TELLS WAY TO FILL OUT FORM

Shows Manner in Which Claim for Deferred Classification Should Be Marked.

As a result of inquiries received by him, Adjutant General F. S. Dickson has written the Rock Island exemption board and other boards of the state with the hope of eliminating the confusion which may arise as to the manner in which claims for deferred classification should be indicated on the first page of the questionnaire.

The adjutant general's letter follows: "From inquiries received by this department it is evident that some confusion may arise as to the manner in which claims for deferred classification should be indicated on the first page of the questionnaire."

"Registrants should be instructed that an 'X' should be placed in column 'A' opposite the division which states the ground upon which the claim for deferred classification is based."

"Claims for deferred classification may be made on one or more grounds."

"All single men without dependent relatives should place an 'X' in column 'A' division 'A' class 1. If he claims deferred classification on any ground he should also place an 'X' in column 'A' opposite the division where the ground of his claim is stated. For example: If the registrant is a single man without dependent relatives and is a regular or duly ordained minister of religion he should place an 'X' in column 'A' opposite division 'A' in class 1; also an 'X' in column 'A' opposite division 'B' in class 5."

To Advisory Board.

"This ruling should be called to the attention of the members of the legal advisory board and given publicity among the registrants in order that the questionnaires may be properly prepared and the status of each registrant fully indicated thereon."

F. S. DICKSON, Adjutant General."

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F. S. DICKSON, Adjutant General."

OFFICERS ELECTED BY CATHOLIC UNION

At the annual meeting of St. Joseph's branch No. 18, Western Catholic union, held yesterday afternoon the following officers were named for the ensuing year:

President—J. B. Corken. Vice President—C. J. Larkin. Secretary—William O'Donnell. Treasurer—John Brennan. Trustees—J. J. McCarthy, Dan Lawler and C. R. Wheelan. Marshal—John Ainsworth.

WORKMAN MAY LOSE SIGHT OF HIS EYE

Charles Ware, 501 Eleventh street, may lose the sight of one eye as result of an accident at the Campbell & Wochner garage, 1613 Third avenue, this morning.

Ware was at work repairing a stove. He was using a small chisel and hammer. A chip of cast steel flew up cutting across the eyeball. He was removed to St. Anthony's hospital where Dr. C. E. Rochow attended him. Dr. Rochow stated that the sight of the eye might be saved. The injury is a serious one, however.

A few cents deposited weekly with the German Trust & Savings bank will pay your Christmas bills next year.



A Great Christmas Event Reduction Sale of Shoes

Offering our entire stock of Men's and Women's Shoes at January reductions. Armstrong and Queen Quality shoes for women. Edwin Clapp and M. A. Packard shoes for men, and other well known makes.

Holiday
Slippers
at
Lowest
Prices

M & K

ROCK ISLAND

Holiday
Hosiery
In
Greatest
Stocks



A Christmas Greeting by Telegraph

carries with it a feeling of spontaneous warmth and a sense of personal nearness which no other form of communication conveys.

A 50-word Night Letter affords ample scope for the fullest expression.

The boys in camp, particularly, will welcome a Christmas telegram.

WESTERN UNION

Telegrams—Day Letters—Night Letters
Cablegrams—Money Transferred by Wire

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.